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DIETARY SUPPLEMENT MAKER FACES CIVIL LAWSUIT SAN DIEGO CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE JOINS COURT ACTION

San Diego, CA: The San Diego City Attorney's Office announced it joined the District Attorney Offices in San Francisco, Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Kern, Alameda and Monterey Counties in filing a civil lawsuit to halt misleading advertising and other unfair business practices involving California sales of HGH Gold, a dietary supplement touted in the companies' advertisements as a virtual cure-all for maladies which the companies claim are associated with the human aging process. San Diego Deputy City Attorney Joan McNamara of the Consumer & Environmental Protection Unit says, "A full-page advertisement making these claims first appeared in the San Diego Union-Tribune on Monday, September 25, 2000. The claims were also made on the companies' web sites."

The lawsuit was filed in Napa County Superior Court today against Cambridge Research Laboratories, Inc., Sandco International Inc., and four of their corporate officers. The complaint alleges that the companies made false and misleading claims about the ability of HGH Gold to reverse the effects of aging. The suit also alleges that defendants illegally made claims that HGH Gold can cure certain diseases, including claims that HGH Gold increases resistance to illness, decreases cholesterol and triglyceride levels, and normalizes blood pressure. The suit alleges that the false and misleading claims constitute unfair business practices under California law. The lawsuit seeks an injunction prohibiting defendants from making these and other illegal claims about the efficacy of HGH Gold without a reliable scientific basis for the claims; \$2,500 in civil penalties for each unfair business practice; \$2,500 in civil penalties for each instance of false and misleading advertising; and other relief.